

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00

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FM AVFMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1780

INFO AMEMBASSY GENEVA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, PFOR, US, CI

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE US CONTRIBUTION TO ICEM CHILEAN PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY: SANTIAGO ICEM REPRESENTATIVE HAS ASKED THE AMBASSADOR FOR SUPPORT IN OBTAINING A USG \$500,000 CONTRIBUTION TOWARD ICEM'S SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR RESETTLEMENT OF CHILEANS. WE HAVE FOUND ICEM TO BE ESSENTIAL IN OPERATING OUR CHILE PAROLE PROGRAM. THE REQUESTED CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS TO EIGHT PERCENT OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND SEEMS JUSTIFIED. ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTIONS ON REPLY TO ICEM SANTIAGO. END SUMMARY.

2. ICEM'S LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE, ROBERTO KOZAK, CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 8. HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM GENEVA WHERE HE HAD DEFENDED THE CHILE PROGRAM. HE SAID IT WOULD TAKE HIS OFFICE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO CLEAR UP CURRENT CASE LOAD OF 350 PRINCIPALS AND 1,100 DEPENDENTS AT THE RATE OF 60-70 CASES PER MONTH. AND THERE WOULD LIKELY BE NEW CASES COMING IN.

3. OF 70 PENDING US-APPROVED PAROLE APPLICATIONS, 18 PERSONS WERE BEING HELD UNDER STATE OF SIEGE AUTHORITY AND ICEM WOULD BE MAKING A SPECIAL EFFORT TO OBTAIN EXILE DECREES FOR THEM. SOME OTHERS WERE IN TRIAL PROCESS (CATEGORY II).

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KOZAK SAID HE WOULD BE TRYING TO ARRANGE FOR JUDGES TO

PERMIT THE DEFENDANTS TO OBTAIN COMMUTATION DECREES SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH SENTENCING, OR HAVE THEM SENTENCED DIRECTLY TO EXILE, THUS SPEEDING UP THE PROCESS. (NOTE: THE GOC HAS CONSISTENTLY INSISTED THAT CATEGORY II DETAINEES NOT BE PROCESSED FOR EXILE UNTIL SENTENCED -- A SOUND JURIDICAL POSITION THAT IN PRACTICE HAS RESULTED IN DELAYING EXILE OF SOME.)

4. TURNING TO THE REAL POINT OF THE MEETING, KOZAK SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RAISE WITH THE AMBASSADOR THE CHILE PROGRAM'S DEFICIT. THE PROGRAM WAS FINANCED FROM A SPECIAL FUND, TO WHICH ALMOST \$5.5 MILLION HAD BEEN CONTRIBUTED BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS AND THE UNHCR. THE PROGRAM NOW WAS \$500,000 IN ARREARS, AND ITS CONTINUATION WAS IN JEOPARDY. KOZAK STATED THAT IN JUNE 1976 THE POSSIBILITY OF A USG CONTRIBUTION IN THAT AMOUNT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH JAMES CARLIN AND SUBSEQUENTLY HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN ICEM AND THE OFFICE OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS IN THE DEPARTMENT. KOZAK REALIZED THAT THE SUBJECT HAD TO BE RESOLVED BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND GENEVA; NONETHELESS, HE WONDERED WHAT THE CURRENT STATUS WAS. HE HOPED THE USG DECISION WOULD COME BEFORE THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE ICEM COUNCIL. HE OBSERVED THAT THE PROPOSED CONTRIBUTION WOULD AMOUNT TO ONLY ABOUT EIGHT PERCENT OF THE COST OF THE CHILEAN PROGRAM.

5. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD KOZAK THAT WE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER AT ONCE, THAT WE APPRECIATED ICEM'S ROLE IN ASSISTING OUR PAROLE PROGRAM, AND THAT HE PERSONALLY HOPED SOMETHING MIGHT BE ARRANGED, ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT INFORMED AS TO THE FUNDING SITUATION IN WASHINGTON.

6. COMMENT: ON ITS FACE, THE ICEM REQUEST SEEMS JUSTIFIED. ICEM HAS BEEN INDISPENSABLE IN CONNECTION WITH OUR PAROLE PROGRAM AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO AS LONG AS THE PROGRAM EXISTS. JUDGING FROM KOZAK'S DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION TO US, THE U.S. HAS A MORAL OBLIGATION TO MEET A FAIR SHARE OF ICEM'S EXPENSES FOR THE PROGRAM. ACCORDINGLY, I HOPE FUNDS CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE. WOULD APPRECIATE A REPORT ON THE SITUATION SO THAT WE CAN INFORM KOZAK BEFORE THE NOVEMBER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING.
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